

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 80230 SENT ACTION OECD PARIS AND TOKYO

DTD 9 APR 75

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOR OECD RESEARCH PROJECT

REFS: (A) OECD PARIS 7270

(B) OECD PARIS 23965, 23970 (OCT 74)

1. JAPANESE DEPUTY VICE MINISTER YOSHINO DISCUSSED THE JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOR A SPECIAL LONG TERM STUDY IN THE OECD ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES WITH THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MARCH 26 AND WITH THE DIRECTOR OF POLICY PLANNING MARCH 28.

2. UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE JAPANESE PROPOSAL, AND THAT THE IDEA DESERVED CAREFUL
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CONSIDERATION. HE SAID HE FELT THERE WAS A NEED FOR A

CLEAR AND PRECISE STATEMENT OF WHAT QUESTIONS WOULD BE ADDRESSED AND FOR KEEPING THE WORK DIRECTED AT SPECIFIC AND PRACTICAL PROBLEMS. ROBINSON ADDED THAT US FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT COULD NOT BE ASSURED AT THIS TIME. YOSHINO SAID HE WAS GLAD FOR OUR FUNDAMENTAL SUPPORT FOR THE STUDY, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS PRACTICAL RATHER THAN "FUTURISTIC". HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD KEEP US INFORMED OF EACH PHASE OF PLANNING FOR THE PROJECT.

3. YOSHINO ALSO RAISED THE IDEA OF THE PROJECT WITH POLICY PLANNING DIRECTOR LORD. LORD INDICATED WE WERE VERY INTERESTED IN THE PROJECT. LORD ADDED WE WOULD HAVE TO EXAMINE THE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS, AND THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE MORE PRECISE TERMS OF REFERENCE.

4. YOSHINO HAS SENT LORD MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT. THIS INCLUDES A DRAFT OECD COUNCIL NOTE (DSTI/PSG/75/102) DATED 12 MARCH WRITTEN BY R.M. LEES ABOUT THE PROJECT. NOTE ALSO HAS ANNEX SPELLING OUT HOW THE LONG RUN RESEARCH MIGHT BE ORGANIZED, THE ISSUES ADDRESSED, AND THE MAIN FACTORS TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION TO DETERMINE THE USEFULNESS OF THE RESEARCH. THE ANNEX CONSIDERS TWO POSSIBILITIES: ONE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT TWO OR THREE COUNTRIES JOIN WITH JAPAN IN THE STUDY WITH A BUDGET OF ABOUT \$1.7 MILLION, THE OTHER BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ABOUT TEN COUNTRIES PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY WITH EXPENDITURES TOTALLING ABOUT \$4 MILLION. THESE DOCUMENTS BEING POUCHED TO ADDRESSEES.

5. WE UNDERSTAND JAPANESE ARE PLANNING TO HAVE MEETING AT OECD PARIS SOON TO DISCUSS PROJECT. YOSHINO SUGGESTED US MIGHT SEND WASHINGTON OFFICIAL OR DESIGNATE SOMEONE FROM MISSION TO ATTEND MEETING.

6. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. FOR OECD PARIS. REQUEST MISSION ASCERTAIN DATE AND SCOPE OF MEETING SUGGESTED BY JAPANESE, APPROPRIATE LEVEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF REPRESENTATION AT SUCH MEETING, AND DEGREE TO WHICH OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE MADE KNOWN THEIR INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN STUDY PROJECT. WHAT IS IT HOPED THAT MEETING WOULD ACCOMPLISH?

B. ALSO FOR OECD PARIS. AT MARCH INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETING, JAPANESE PROPOSED STUDY ON "FUTURE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURES" (REF C). US REP NOTED AT THE MEETING THAT

IC PROJECT AS NOW CONCEIVED MIGHT EXCEED RESOURCES AND MANDATE OF INDUSTRY COMMITTEE. REQUEST YOU SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM JAPANESE OECD MISSION AND/OR SECRETARIAT ON EXACTLY HOW JAPANESE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE PROPOSAL (DSTI/IND/75.05 AND .06) WILL BE REWRITTEN AS A RESULT OF MARCH IC DISCUSSION. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY REPLY ON THIS POINT IN ORDER TO ASSIST WITH EVALUATION OF THESE DOCUMENTS NOW UNDERWAY HERE.

C. FOR TOKYO. WE ARE NOT SURE WHAT CONNECTION THERE MAY BE BETWEEN RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSED BY JAPANESE ON "FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES" DISCUSSED PARAS 1-5 ABOVE AND STUDY PROPOSED BY JAPAN IN OECD INDUSTRY COMMITTEE. REQUEST YOU SEEK GOJ'S VIEWS ON HOW THEY SEE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THESE TWO PROJECTS. KISSINER UNQUOTE
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